

Information for providers ordering Zika virus testing

I've reviewed Zika virus testing criteria and I have a symptomatic patient with potential Zika virus exposure. What now?

How many days has it been since symptom onset?

<7 days

Molecular testing can be performed on serum and urine

RT-PCR on serum is available at CDC or commercial labs. RT-PCR on urine is only available at CDC.

<14 days

Molecular testing can be performed on urine

RT-PCR on urine is only available at CDC.

≥4 days

Antibody testing can be performed on serum

ELISA and PRNT are only available at CDC.

How do I collect and store specimens?

Serum

Collect 2 mL serum, spin down

Store in a cryotube or serum separator tube (red or tiger top)

Keep cold or freeze to -70°C, ship in insulated container with ice packs or on dry ice

Urine

Collect >1 mL urine

Store in a sterile container with a tight fitting screw cap

Keep cold or freeze to -70°C, ship in insulated container with ice packs or on dry ice

I've reviewed Zika virus testing criteria and I have an asymptomatic pregnant woman with potential Zika virus exposure. What now?

How many weeks has it been since last exposure?

<2 weeks

Wait until >2 weeks before collecting a serum specimen

2-12 weeks

Antibody testing can be performed on serum

ELISA and PRNT are only available at CDC

>12 weeks

Conduct fetal ultrasound

If microcephaly or intracranial calcifications are detected, collect maternal serum, consider amniocentesis